



ARTSCOUNCIL
OF INDIANAPOLIS

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Arts Council names Channie Jones as Director of Equity Partnerships

Jones will lead day-to-day operations of organizational and sector advancement in racial equity, diversity, inclusion, and arts access for central Indiana's leading arts advocacy and services agency

INDIANAPOLIS—The Arts Council of Indianapolis announces today that Channie Jones will join the organization in June as Director of Equity Partnerships. The new position will focus on advancing diversity, racial equity, inclusion, and access (DEIA) priorities internally within the organization and across the Indy arts and culture sector.

Jones will serve as part of the Arts Council's Community Impact & Investment team, led by Ernest Disney-Britton, Vice President of Community Impact and Investment. The team supports organizations and individual artists through DEIA-centered grants and fellowship programs, arts education partnerships, arts impact research, and other services. The team also oversees Arts Council programs that create and implement DEIA capacity-building strategies, including the [Equity Ambassadors Program](#), City of Indianapolis [Annual Grants Program](#), and [Indy Arts Education](#).

Jones, an Arts & Culture Leaders of Color Fellow through Americans for the Arts, is a demonstrated builder of community coalitions and partnerships with over eight years of experience championing education and arts advocacy with nonprofits including the Central Indiana Community Foundation (CICF), Arts for Learning, and the Indiana Arts Commission. Prior to joining the Arts Council, Jones served as Director of Operations at the Edison School of the Arts, where she was part of the team who received the ARTI Award in 2018 for Excellence in Art Education.

"Local arts agencies across the country have been addressing inclusion, diversity, equity, and access in a variety of ways," said Jones, who earned a B.A. in Art Education from Purdue University and an M.A. in Arts Administration from Goucher College in Baltimore, Maryland. "I'm excited to join the Arts Council to focus on its internal progress and citywide support for the arts and culture sector. I look forward to working with the Arts Council's board, staff, and many stakeholders to strengthen the organization's internal practices, external services, and partnerships. Our efforts will lead to greater success in our city's cultural awareness, cultural competence, and economic development."

Jones will have primary responsibility for guiding sector-wide DEIA progress for Indianapolis arts and culture organizations, which includes equitable access to arts education for K-8 public and charter

schools. She will also be responsible for working with arts and culture CEOs and boards, education managers of arts and culture organizations, and public school officials to support the sector's DEIA priorities.

"We are thrilled to welcome Channie to the Arts Council team and the community of Indy artists, arts and cultural organizations, and partners we exist to serve," said Julie Goodman, President and CEO. "We look forward to bringing her impressive skills and expertise across arts administration, arts education, and DEIA to operationalize our equity commitments within our own organization and through our advocacy and support services for the sector."

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[The Arts Council of Indianapolis](#) fosters meaningful engagement in the arts by nurturing a culture where artists and arts organizations can thrive. Read the Arts Council's Equity Statement [here](#).